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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Boyse Edwards, Jr.; and

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WHEREAS, Boyse Edwards, Jr. was born on October 26, 1948; his parents were Boyse Edwards, Sr. and Christine Edwards; he was raised in the Henry Homer Homes; and

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WHEREAS, Boyse Edwards, Jr. attended Birney Elementary School, McKinley Upper Grade Center, and Crane High School, where he graduated in 1967; he also attended the DeVry Institute, the United States School of Law Enforcement, John Marshall Law School, and Loyola University, where he received many certificates and degrees; and

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WHEREAS, Boyse Edwards, Jr. worked at the Chicago Area Project from 1979 to 2015; he worked at the Youth Service Committee of the Westside from 1969 until his passing and was a founding board member and executive director of the James "Major" Adams Youth and Family Development Academy from 1990 to 2002; he was also a registered barber; and

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WHEREAS, Boyse Edwards, Jr. was an avid community activist, focusing on juvenile delinquency prevention and gang intervention; he worked and assisted in many different

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1 community service organizations, such as the Chicago  
2 Intervention Network, the 13th District Youth Net at Marshall  
3 and Crane High Schools, and the Malcolm X College Annual  
4 Kwanzaa Celebration "Community Stepping Stones"; he also  
5 produced the community-based educational and informative  
6 CAN/T.V. programs "The Real Deal, Makes You Wanna Holla!" and  
7 "Speak on It".; and

8 WHEREAS, Boyse Edwards, Jr. had a great love for music; he  
9 was the "Maestro" and co-founder of the renowned "Ladies and  
10 Gentlemen of Leisure"; he was a member of the Henry Homer  
11 Hornets Drum and Bugle Corps under the direction of James  
12 "Major" Adams; under the instruction and mentorship of Major  
13 Adams, he began his commitment to community services as a  
14 leader, helping young people and families with his special  
15 gifts of compassion to serving the disenfranchised and  
16 disconnected; and

17 WHEREAS, Boyse Edwards, Jr. was preceded in death by his  
18 parents and his siblings, Dorothy, Willie, Emma, Foster, Verna,  
19 and Napoleon; and

20 WHEREAS, Boyse Edwards, Jr. is survived by his daughter,  
21 Mia "Puff" Walker (Greg Walker, Sr.); his sons, Jawann Deloney,  
22 Reginald Bradley, and Fontain Lykes; his grandchildren,  
23 Gregory "Roe" Walker, Jr., Ariana Walker, Randall Bradley, Asia

1 Bradley, and Kaylee Houston; his sisters, Nedra, Sandra,  
2 Brenda, and Anastasia; his special friend, Faye Parker; and  
3 many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends;  
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his  
7 family and friends, mourn the passing of Boyse Edwards, Jr.;  
8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
10 presented to the family of Boyse Edwards, Jr. as an expression  
11 of our sympathy.